

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-11 are (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal projector having liquid crystal devices for plural primary color lights, the primary color lights passing through the corresponding liquid crystal device being focused on a screen to display an image, the liquid crystal projector comprising:

retardation compensators, formed from inorganic materials, adjacent to at least one of the incidence surface side and the emanation surface side of the liquid crystal devices, and the retardation compensator for the primary color light with the shortest wavelength having a different thickness in the direction of the optical axis of its respective liquid crystal device from the retardation compensator(s) for other primary color(s).

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A system for compensating retardation caused by birefringence of incident light to liquid crystal devices, each of the liquid crystal devices is provided in the optical axis of a respective one of plural primary color lights with different wavelengths, the system comprising:

retardation compensators, formed from inorganic materials, adjacent to at least one of the incidence surface side and the emanation surface side of the liquid crystal devices, and the retardation compensator for the primary color light with the shortest wavelength having a different thickness in the direction of the optical axis of its respective liquid crystal device from the retardation compensator(s) for other primary color(s).

15. (New) The liquid crystal projector according to claim 12, wherein each retardation compensator is a retardation compensation film composed of at least of two kinds of thin film layers with different refractive indices, and the optical thickness of each thin film layer is  $1/100$  to  $1/5$  of the wavelength of corresponding primary color light.

16. (New) The liquid crystal projector according to claim 15, wherein the retardation compensators for all primary color lights have a common combination of the inorganic materials for at least two kinds of thin film layers.

17. (New) The liquid crystal projector according to claim 16, wherein the number of the layered thin films of the retardation compensator for the primary color light with the shortest wavelength is smaller than that of the retardation compensator for other primary color light.

18. (New) The liquid crystal projector according to claim 12, wherein the retardation compensator is a plurality of birefringent members arranged to appear

one or two dimensional refractive index distribution in the plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the primary color light,

wherein the length of the birefringence member for the shortest wavelength primary color light in the optical axis is smaller than that for other primary color light.

19. (New) The liquid crystal projector according to claim 12, wherein the retardation compensators for the plural primary color lights are each formed of the same materials.

20. (New) The system according to claim 14, wherein the retardation compensators for the plural primary color lights are each formed of the same materials.